

November 30, 2005

Dear Challenge Course/Permanent Rockwall Owner,

On September 9, 2005, new regulations governing the operation of amusement devices became effective. These regulations cover climbing walls and other devices typically found in so-called challenge courses, including those which use a harness and belay system. The department estimates approximately 1,000 of these devices in the Commonwealth.

In order to allow the time necessary for this segment of the industry to come into compliance with the new provisions of 520 CMR in a safe and efficient manner, the Department will delay its enforcement of the regulations for these types of devices until **March 31, 2006.**

The Department expects that all owners of challenge courses will be in full compliance with the provisions of 520 CMR 5.00 et seq. on or before this date. Commencing on April 1, 2006, the Department will begin enforcing the regulations and take appropriate action for those owners who are not in compliance. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Mooney, Assistant Chief of Inspections at 617-727-3200 ext. 25208.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner